



DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff **Scott Mittelstadt** Chief Deputy

Law of the Month – November, 2018

What to do on approach of emergency vehicles

Deputies with the Dodge County Sheriff's Office respond to many emergencies on a daily basis. Some incidents may be less than one mile away, while some may be on the opposite end of the county. It is important that deputies get to the emergency, no matter the distance, in a safe yet timely manner. As citizens, you can help deputies, first responders and emergency vehicles get to their destination safely by yielding right-of-way. Remember, seconds count in emergencies and it is not ok to delay first responders for lost time can be the difference in life or death. Even on a four-lane road, with an extra lane for an emergency vehicle to pass, vehicles need to yield right-of-way instead of changing lanes and continuing to drive. Overall, first responders risk their lives to help others in emergency situations and there can be many hazards in responding to such incidents. By properly yielding to emergency vehicles, there can be one less hazard to keep our first responders safe. Please review the state statute below to see what the statute is on "What to do on approach of emergency vehicle".

Wisconsin State Statute:

346.19 What to do on approach of emergency vehicle.

(1) Upon the approach of any authorized emergency vehicle giving audible signal by siren the operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive such vehicle to a position as near as possible and parallel to the right curb or the right-hand edge of the shoulder of the roadway, clear of any intersection and, unless otherwise directed by a traffic officer, shall stop and remain standing in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed.